1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Oil Seeds	—	15.42	—	7.89	—	1.35
10.	Natural Rubber	20207	57.32	8572	29.34	42404	126.77
11.	Jute, Raw	137398	139.31	73365	82.57	63615	76.05
12.	Silk, Raw	5058	412.74	4738	476.25	5081	477.65
13.	Cotton Raw Comb/ Uncomb/Waste	237398	1253.92	212069	1183.14	334031	1791.94

Industrial Development in Assam

*332. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government propose to take for industrial development of Assam;

(b) whether Government propose to set up new industries in Assam in near future; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan to expand and improve the existing foreign commercial routes like Moreh, Dawki and water routes of Brahmaputra; and

(d) whether Government have any plan to clear the Stilwel Road route to Myanmar and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) An Industrial Policy and other concessions comprising schemes like (i) Growth Centre (ii) Transport Subsidy (iii) Capital Investment Subsidy (iv) Central Interest Subsidy (v) Central Comprehensive Insurance (vi) Central Excise & Icome-tax exmeption has been notified for promotion of industry in the North Eastern Region including the State of Assam, with a view to develop infrastructure facility and to promote investment in the North Eastern States. Infrastructure facilities like EPIP in Amingaon, IIDCs at Dalgaon Growth Centres at Balipara and Matia have been set up for promoting investment in Assam. NEDFI has successfuly set up an IT Park which is the largest Call Centre in Eastern India. The NEDFI has been nominated as nodal agency for disbursement of central

subsidies under various Schemes like Central Investment Subsidy, Interest Subsidy.

(c) A weighbridge has been installed on the Indian side of the border. There is no weighbridge facility on the Bangladesh side of the Dawki-Tamabil Land Custom Station (LCS). In the absence of weighbridge facility on Bangladesh side, coal cargoes exported to Bangladesh are measured by volume rather than by weight. Border trade from Moreh (India)-Tamu (Myanmar) border points is taking place between the two countries consequent upon the signing of Indo-Myanmar Border Trade Agreement in January, 1994. The Moreh trade point is manned by Customs post and all official trades are taking place between Moreh-Tamu border points. A Trade Centre has been constructed at Moreh to provide stalls for showroom-cum sales counter to the local traders inaddition to opening of import-export information cell, providing telecommunication facilities etc. A sum of Rs. 95 lakhs has been approved under the Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme (CIBS) by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry for the development of roads and streetlights at Moreh in Manipur. The river Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya has been declared at National Highway. This water way is connected with the part of Halidia and Kolkata by the Inland water Transport route through Bangladesh. An inland water transit, a trade protocol between India and Bangladesh exists under which inland vessels of two countries ply on the designated transit routes and between ports designated for inter-country trade. Under the protocol each country maintains the river routes falling within its territory in a navigable condition and provides all the essential pilotage and conservancy services including hydro-graphic surveys and supply of charts and also permits the vessels of the other country to utilise all available cranes and other handling facilities on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to local vessels.

(d) Stilwell Road from, Ledo in Assam to Pangsu Pass on Indo-Myanmar Border in Arunachal Pradesh has been declared National Highway No. 153 *vide* Govt. of India Notification No. 923(E) dated 12.10.2000. The length of road in Assam is about 20 Km. and in Arunachal Pradesh about 40 Km.